

Hakea sericea

COMMON NAME

prickly hakea

FAMILY

Proteaceae

AUTHORITY

Hakea sericea Schrad. et J.C.Wendl.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

HAKSER

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial. A coastal and lowland plant (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995). The plant grows in low fertility sites (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995). A plant of low forest, scrub and forest margin and shrubland (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995).

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Large spreading shrub or small tree. Shoots densely hairy, somewhat angular. Leaves terete, simple, 20~60 x .7~1mm, glabrous except when very young, rigid and spiny. Flowers few, in fascicles of less than 10; peduncles 0 or very short, densely hairy. Pedicels 3~4mm long, densely hairy to glabrate. Perianth white, glabrous, = pedicels. Ovary shortly stipitate or sessile; style glabrous; stigma cone slightly oblique. Fruit 2~3 x 1.4~2.5cm, mostly very corrugated; beak very short. Seed 15~25 x 6~12mm (incl. wing), black; wing extending down one side. (- Webb et. al., 1988)

SIMILAR TAXA

Large, prickly, spreading shrub or small tree. shoots densely hairy, older plant without hair. Leaves circular in cross section. Large seed capsule beaked and woody with a seed winged on one margin. Flowers June-November. Can be confused with downy hakea - note the downy hakea plant is covered in hair (DoC, 1998)

FLOWERING

June, July, August, September, October, November

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow



Ridge above Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt.
Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken:
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LIFE CYCLE

Perennial. Germination of seeds is high on burnt sites (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995). Seeds are released from trees and either germinate or decay (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995). The plant does not establish below its own canopy (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995). Seed production is abundant, and seeds remain viable on trees, dispersed by gravity and wind ((ibid.).

YEAR NATURALISED

1883

ORIGIN

Tasmania, E Australia

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

TOLERANCES

The plant is slightly tolerant of shade and frost; highly tolerant to drought and intolerant to poor drainage (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995). Resprouting does not occur from the base, but once toppled, can revert to vertical shoot growth at ends of branches (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995). Adult plants are killed by fire, but releases seed (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995). Requires low soil fertility (Atkinson 1997).

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/hakea-sericea/>